KHS HONOR CODE PLEDGE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES – NOTES CONTAINER**

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| **Frame Number** | **Notes or Answers to Questions:** |
| **1. Title Frame** | **The Supreme Court of the United States: A Fearless Court** |
| **2. Write out the four organizing questions of this unit in the space provided here:** |  |
| **3. What is the purpose of the Supreme Court of the United States as head of the Judicial Branch?** |  |
| **4. Diagram the federal court system’s hierarchy from the highest court in the land to the lowest level of the federal judiciary.** |  |
| **5. How many circuits are there within the Federal Court System? What kinds of cases are heard in the Federal Court System?** |  |
| **6. How many US Courts of Appeal exist? Who hears and decided upon the merits of the cases there? Is there a jury? Are defendants declared guilty or not guilty at the end of the trial?** |  |
| **7. How many members of the Supreme Court are there? What is unique about cases before the Supreme Court? How do the justices of the Supreme Court interact with the lawyers at trial?** |  |
| **8. What important power of the Supreme Court was asserted by Chief Justice John Marshall in 1803? How did this make the Supreme Court more significant than it had been previously?** |  |
| **9. What is the significance of the case of *Marbury V. Madison*?** |  |
| **10. What is the significance of the case of *McCullough V. Maryland*?** |  |
| **11. What is the significance of the case of *Gibbons V. Ogden*?** |  |
| **12. Define *Original Jurisdiction*:** | **12A. Define *Appellate Jurisdiction*:** |
| **13. Describe the unique characteristics of the Norfolk Federal Court’s jurisdiction.** |  |
| **14. What is the jurisdiction of the US Court of Appeals? What rulings can the US Court of Appeals make regarding a case which has been appealed to them?** |  |
| **15. When does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction over a case?** | **What other cases are heard by the Supreme Court?** |
| **16. List the six (6) events which take place when the Supreme Court hears a case.** |  |
| **17. Define and give an example of a *writ of certiorari*:** |  |
| **18. Define the term *brief* as it applies to the Supreme Court:** | **What are *amicus curiae*?** |
| **19. Describe how *oral arguments* before the Supreme Court are executed by the lawyers and justices involved.** |  |
| **20. What happens during the *conferences* of the justices of the Supreme Court?** |  |
| **21. What is the *majority opinion* and who writes it?** |  |
| **22. What is the *dissenting opinion*, and who writes that?** |  |
| **23. Why is the announcement of decisions important? What can happen if there are split decisions of the court? What happens when decisions are unanimous?** |  |
| **24. List one check the Supreme Court holds over the Executive Branch.** |  |
| **25. List one check the Supreme Court holds over the Legislative Branch.** |  |
| **26. Define and give an example of *Judicial Activism.*** |  |
| **27. What is *judicial restraint*, and who supports it?** |  |
| **28. Title Frame.** | **Recent Decisions of Note.** |
| **29. What was the outcome of the most recent two Obamacare Supreme Court cases?** |  |
| **30. What has the Supreme Court ruled over the issue of campaign finance reform?** |  |
| **31. What was the Supreme Court’s ruling in Obergefell V. Hodges (2015)?** |  |
| **32. What conflicts are at stake in cases over the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution?** |  |
| **33. Why are abortion rights cases becoming more frequent today than they were fifteen or twenty years ago?** |  |